Exhibit A

Proposed Order

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

FRANCHISE GROUP, INC., et al., 1

Debtors.

Case No. 24- 12480 (JTD)

(Jointly Administered)

Ref. Docket No. 353

ORDER APPOINTING FEE EXAMINER AND ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTED FEE COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

Upon consideration of the Certification of Counsel Regarding Order Appointing Fee Examiner and Establishing Procedures for Consideration of Requested Fee Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses (the "Certification of Counsel");² and this Court having determined that the appointment of a fee examiner (the "Fee Examiner") is in the best interests of the Debtors'

The Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, along with the last four digits of their U.S. federal tax identification numbers, to the extent applicable, are Franchise Group, Inc. (1876), Freedom VCM Holdings, LLC (1225), Freedom VCM Interco Holdings, Inc. (2436), Freedom Receivables II, LLC (4066), Freedom VCM Receivables, Inc. (0028), Freedom VCM Interco, Inc. (3661), Freedom VCM, Inc. (3091), Franchise Group New Holdco, LLC (0444), American Freight FFO, LLC (5743), Franchise Group Acquisition TM, LLC (3068), Franchise Group Intermediate Holdco, LLC (1587), Franchise Group Intermediate L, LLC (9486), Franchise Group Newco Intermediate AF, LLC (8288), American Freight Group, LLC (2066), American Freight Holdings, LLC (8271), American Freight, LLC (5940), American Freight Management Company, LLC (1215), Franchise Group Intermediate S, LLC (5408), Franchise Group Newco S, LLC (1814), American Freight Franchising, LLC (1353), Home & Appliance Outlet, LLC (n/a), American Freight Outlet Stores, LLC (9573), American Freight Franchisor, LLC (2123), Franchise Group Intermediate B, LLC (7836), Buddy's Newco, LLC (5404), Buddy's Franchising and Licensing LLC (9968), Franchise Group Intermediate V, LLC (5958), Franchise Group Newco V, LLC (9746), Franchise Group Intermediate BHF, LLC (8260), Franchise Group Newco BHF, LLC (4123), Valor Acquisition, LLC (3490), Vitamin Shoppe Industries LLC (3785), Vitamin Shoppe Global, LLC (1168), Vitamin Shoppe Mariner, LLC (6298), Vitamin Shoppe Procurement Services, LLC (8021), Vitamin Shoppe Franchising, LLC (8271), Vitamin Shoppe Florida, LLC (6590), Betancourt Sports Nutrition, LLC (0470), Franchise Group Intermediate PSP, LLC (5965), Franchise Group Newco PSP, LLC (2323), PSP Midco, LLC (6507), Pet Supplies "Plus", LLC (5852), PSP Group, LLC (5944), PSP Service Newco, LLC (6414), WNW Franchising, LLC (9398), WNW Stores, LLC (n/a), PSP Stores, LLC (9049), PSP Franchising, LLC (4978), PSP Subco, LLC (6489), PSP Distribution, LLC (5242), Franchise Group Intermediate SL, LLC (2695), Franchise Group Newco SL, LLC (7697), and Educate, Inc. (5722). The Debtors' headquarters is located at 109 Innovation Court, Suite J, Delaware, Ohio 43015.

Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined in this Order have the meaning given to such terms in the Certification of Counsel.

estates; and it further appearing that (a) this Court has jurisdiction over this matter under 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334 and the *Amended Standing Order of Reference* from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware dated as of February 29, 2012, (b) this is a core proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2), and (c) this Court may enter a final order consistent with Article III of the U.S. Constitution; and the Debtors, the Committee, the Ad Hoc Group of First Lien Lenders, and the Ad Hoc Group of Freedom Lenders having conferred and having also consulted with the Office of the United States Trustee for the District of Delaware (the "U.S. Trustee") with respect to the appointment of a fee examiner in these chapter 11 cases (the "Chapter 11 Cases") and with respect to the establishment of related procedures set forth in this Order; and good and sufficient cause appearing therefor;

IT IS HEREBY FOUND AND DETERMINED THAT:

- A. On November 3, 2024 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), the Debtors each filed a petition for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101–1532 (the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>"), commencing these Chapter 11 Cases. These Chapter 11 Cases are jointly administered.
- B. Numerous fee applications are anticipated to be filed given the size and the complexity of these Chapter 11 Cases. As a result, the appointment of a fee examiner to review and report on, as appropriate, all monthly fee applications (collectively, the "Monthly Fee Applications"), interim fee applications (collectively, the "Interim Fee Applications"), and final fee applications (collectively, the "Final Fee Applications," and, together with the Monthly Fee Applications and the Interim Fee Applications, the "Applications") submitted by any professional retained or proposed to be retained by the Debtors or the Committee in these Chapter 11 Cases

under section 105, 327, 328, or 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code (collectively, the "<u>Estate Retained</u> <u>Professionals</u>") is appropriate.

- C. The Fee Examiner will assist this Court in its determination of whether the Applications submitted by the Estate Retained Professionals are compliant with the Bankruptcy Code, all applicable Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Practice and Procedure of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Local Rules"), and the *Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* [Docket No. 353] (the "Interim Compensation Order"), and to provide transparency in the administration of these Chapter 11 Cases.
- D. Direct Fee Review LLC ("<u>Direct Fee Review</u>"), the proposed Fee Examiner, is a "disinterested person" as that term is defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(14). Mr. W. Joseph Dryer's declaration of disinterestedness is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 1</u>.
 - E. The appointment of the Fee Examiner is in the best interests of the Debtors' estates.
- F. Upon the agreement of the Debtors, the Committee and the Ad Hoc Group of First Lien Lenders, and upon consultation with the U.S. Trustee as to the identity of the Fee Examiner and the procedures outlined here:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. This Court hereby appoints Direct Fee Review as the Fee Examiner.
- 2. Unless otherwise ordered by this Court, this Order shall apply to all Estate Retained Professionals; *provided*, the term "Estate Retained Professional" shall not include: (i) any professional asserting claims for reimbursement of professional fees and expenses under section 503(b) of the Bankruptcy Code that are permitted by this Court; (ii) any professional in these

Chapter 11 Cases employed or to be employed pursuant to section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code; (iii) any professional whose compensation and reimbursement is authorized pursuant to any order, on an interim or final basis, approving the Debtors' use of cash collateral or approving postpetition financing facilities, including, for the avoidance of doubt, professionals employed by the Ad Hoc Group of First Lien Lenders; or (iv) any professionals employed by the Debtors in the ordinary course of their business in accordance with the *Order Authorizing (A) the Debtors to Retain, Employ, and Compensate Certain Professionals Utilized by the Debtors in the Ordinary Course of Business Effective as of the Petition Date and (B) Waiving Certain Information Requirements of Local Rule 2016-2* [Docket No. 355] (the "OCP Order"), unless such professionals' fees and expenses exceed the monthly cap set forth in the OCP Order.

- 3. This Order shall remain in effect unless and until this Court orders otherwise.
- 4. The Fee Examiner shall ensure that the fees and expenses requested by the Estate Retained Professionals are reasonable, actual, and necessary as required by section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code by monitoring, reviewing, and, where appropriate, objecting to Applications filed by Estate Retained Professionals. The Fee Examiner shall conduct its duties in compliance with (i) the Bankruptcy Code (specifically, sections 328, 329, 330, and 331, as applicable, pursuant to each Estate Retained Professional's retention order); (ii) the Bankruptcy Rules, including Bankruptcy Rule 2016; (iii) the Local Rules, including Local Rule 2016-2; (iv) all other applicable rules and guidelines; and (v) the Interim Compensation Order.
- 5. The procedures set forth in the Interim Compensation Order, which allows Estate Retained Professionals to be paid, on an interim basis, 80% of their requested fees and 100% of their requested expenses upon the filing of a certification of no objection with this Court, shall remain unaffected by this Order and, absent an objection by any of the Notice Parties (as defined

in the Interim Compensation Order), the Estate Retained Professionals shall be entitled to file a certificate of no objection notwithstanding anything herein.

- 6. The terms and conditions of the Interim Compensation Order shall not be modified by this Order, except that not later than three (3) business days after the filing of an Application, an Estate Retained Professional shall send to the Fee Examiner via electronic mail such Application and any time entries and the expense detail filed therewith in Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format and searchable electronic format (in LEDES, or Excel, as specified by the Fee Examiner), as applicable (the "Fee Detail"); provided, however, that an Estate Retained Professional need not send to the Fee Examiner the Fee Detail for any Interim Fee Application or Final Fee Application, if such Estate Retained Professional has previously submitted the relevant Fee Detail to the Fee Examiner. If any Estate Retained Professional cannot reasonably convert its Fee Detail to the electronic formats described above, the Fee Examiner and the Estate Retained Professionals shall cooperate in good faith to agree on an appropriate electronic format.
- All previously filed Applications and related Fee Detail shall be provided to the Fee Examiner by each applicable Estate Retained Professional within twenty (20) days of entry of this Order. On and after the date hereof, all future Applications, and all other documents, notices, or pleadings required to be sent to or served upon the Notice Parties under the Interim Compensation Order shall also be served upon the Fee Examiner via first class mail at the following address: Don F. Oliver, Direct Fee Review LLC, 24A Trolley Square, #1225, Wilmington, Delaware, 19806, with an electronic copy sent to dfr.dfo@gmail.com and dfr.wjd@gmail.com.³
- 8. Without limiting any provision of this Order, to the extent that any order approving the retention of any Estate Retained Professionals in whole or in part under section 328 of the

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The Fee Examiner shall be deemed to have filed a request for notice of papers filed in these Chapter 11 Cases pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002, and the Fee Examiner shall be served with all such papers.

Bankruptcy Code authorizes any party, including, without limitation, the U.S. Trustee, to object to the allowance of fees or expenses sought by such Estate Retained Professional on any grounds, including without limitation, based on the reasonableness standard provided in section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Fee Examiner shall also be authorized (and shall have standing) to object on the same grounds as such party by filing and serving Initial Reports and Final Reports (each as defined below) as to such Estate Retained Professionals' Applications.

9. The Fee Examiner shall:

- a. review Applications (including related Fee Detail) filed by each Estate Retained Professional in these Chapter 11 Cases. To the extent practicable, the Fee Examiner shall avoid duplicative review when reviewing (i) Interim Fee Applications comprising Monthly Fee Applications; and (ii) Final Fee Applications comprising Interim Fee Applications that have already been reviewed by the Fee Examiner;
- b. during the course of its review of an Application, consult, as it deems appropriate, with each Estate Retained Professional concerning its respective Application;
- c. during the course of its review of an Application, review, to the extent appropriate, any relevant documents filed in these Chapter 11 Cases to be generally familiar with these Chapter 11 Cases and the dockets;
- d. within thirty (30) days after an Estate Retained Professional files an Interim Fee Application or Final Fee Application, serve an initial report (the "<u>Initial Report</u>") on the Estate Retained Professional designed to quantify and present factual data relevant to whether the requested fees, disbursements, and expenses meet the applicable standards of section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code and Local Rule 2016-2;
- e. within fifteen (15) days after service of the Initial Report, communicate with each Estate Retained Professional, the objective of which is to resolve matters raised in the Initial Report and endeavor to reach consensual resolution with each Estate Retained Professional with respect to that Estate Retained Professional's requested fees and expenses. The Fee Examiner may also use the resolution process to revise findings contained in the Initial Report. Each Estate Retained Professional may provide the Fee Examiner with supplemental information that the Estate Retained Professional believes is relevant to the Initial Report;

- f. following communications between the Fee Examiner and the Estate Retained Professional, and the Fee Examiner's review of any supplemental information provided by such Estate Retained Professional in response to the Initial Report, conclude the resolution period by filing with this Court a report with respect to each Application (the "Final Report") within twenty-one (21) days after the service of the Initial Report, subject to paragraph 10(ii) below. The Final Report shall be in a format designed to quantify and present factual data relevant to whether the requested fees and expenses of each Estate Retained Professional meet the applicable standards of section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code and Local Rule 2016-2. The Final Report shall also inform the Court of any proposed consensual resolutions of the fee or expense reimbursement request for each Estate Retained Professional and the basis for such proposed consensual resolution; and
- g. serve each Final Report on counsel for the Debtors, the Committee, the U.S. Trustee, and each Estate Retained Professional whose fees and expenses are addressed in the Final Report.
- 10. An Estate Retained Professional, subject to a Final Report, may (i) file with this Court a response (a "Final Response") to such Final Report no later than twenty (20) days after the Fee Examiner's service of a Final Report and request a ruling with respect to any fees and/or expenses to which an objection was made (the "Incremental Amount") at the next interim fee hearing or the final fee hearing or, in the alternative, (ii) defer filing the Final Response and request a ruling at any subsequent fee hearing, so as to allow continuing discussions with the Fee Examiner. Any Final Response shall be served upon those parties served with the Final Report and the Fee Examiner.
- 11. The Fee Examiner, the Estate Retained Professionals, and the Debtors shall use best efforts to have the undisputed portion of Applications allowed by this Court and paid as soon as reasonably practicable, even if the Incremental Amount remains disputed and subject to the procedures set forth above.
- 12. Subject to further order of this Court, an Application shall not be considered by this Court prior to review by the Fee Examiner and the submission to this Court of a Final Report specific to such Application, <u>unless</u> the Fee Examiner has expressly stated that such hearing should

go forward without the Final Report being filed. If applicable, hearings on the Applications shall be scheduled by this Court in consultation with the Debtors' or Committee's proposed counsel, as applicable, after the filing of the applicable Final Reports by the Fee Examiner. The Fee Examiner may conduct discovery in connection with any contested Application.

- Examiner, the applicable Estate Retained Professional, and the Debtors' or Committee's proposed counsel, as applicable. Should an Estate Retained Professional fail to meet one or more deadlines set forth herein for the review of an Application and, in the reasonable discretion of the Fee Examiner, the Estate Retained Professional's failure to meet these deadlines does not allow sufficient time for the review process to be completed, such Application shall be heard at a subsequent hearing date. Nothing herein shall be construed or interpreted to require the filing of Final Reports on all Applications prior to any Application and the Final Report specific thereto being considered by this Court, and the delay or adjournment of consideration of an Application shall not affect the timing of hearings on the Applications of other Estate Retained Professionals.
- 14. The Fee Examiner is authorized to take, defend, or appear in any appeal regarding an Application and to conduct and respond to discovery, including making himself available for depositions, consistent with Rule 706 of the Federal Rules of Evidence.
- 15. The Debtors and all Estate Retained Professionals shall cooperate with all reasonable requests made by the Fee Examiner in the discharge of its duties and shall respond as soon as practicable to any such reasonable request for information or meetings with the Fee Examiner.
- 16. If an Estate Retained Professional or its client provides privileged or work product information to the Fee Examiner and identifies the nature of such information to the Fee Examiner,

the Fee Examiner shall treat such information as confidential. The disclosure of such information to the Fee Examiner shall not be deemed to be a waiver by the disclosing party of any applicable work product, attorney client, or other privilege.

- 17. The Fee Examiner may retain attorneys and other professionals that it deems necessary to assist it in the discharge of its duties. The Fee Examiner's retention of professionals shall be subject to this Court's approval. The requirements pursuant to Local Rule 9010-1(c) and (d) shall be waived with respect to the Fee Examiner and any attorneys retained by the Fee Examiner, and the Fee Examiner shall not be required to obtain representation by or associate with a member of the Bar of the District Court of Delaware.
- 18. The Fee Examiner, and any professionals retained by the Fee Examiner, shall be entitled to compensation from the Debtors' estates for their reasonable fees and actual and documented expenses. The fees and expenses of the Fee Examiner shall be subject to application, allocation, and review pursuant to section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 2016, Local Rule 2016-2, the applicable U.S. Trustee guidelines, and the Interim Compensation Order, and shall be paid from the Debtors' estates as an administrative expense under section 503(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code. The total fees paid to the Fee Examiner for its services in accordance with this Order shall be charged at the ordinary hourly rate of the Fee Examiner for services of this nature (which rate is \$300 per hour) and shall not include any contingency or success fees. The Fee Examiner's expenses shall be subject to the information detail requirements set forth in Local Rule 2016-2(e).
- 19. Proposed counsel for the Debtors shall promptly serve a copy of this Order, in accordance with the Local Rules, on (i) the U.S. Trustee, (ii) the Fee Examiner, and (iii) each

Estate Retained Professional, other than professionals whose fees are exempted from the Fee Examiner's review pursuant to paragraph 2 above.

- 20. This Order does not limit the statutory rights and obligations of interested parties in these Chapter 11 Cases, including, but not limited to, the rights of parties-in-interest to object to Applications. Nothing herein shall (i) affect the exemptions and waivers granted to, and the standard of review applied to the Estate Retained Professionals as established under any orders previously entered by this Court; or (ii) affect any party's right to request a waiver of the requirements of Local Rule 2016-2 or the U.S. Trustee's guidelines, to the extent they apply.
- 21. The Fee Examiner is hereby appointed an officer of this Court with respect to the performance of its duties as Fee Examiner and shall be provided the maximum immunity permitted by law from civil actions for all acts taken or omitted in the performance of its duties and powers. No person or entity shall seek discovery from the Fee Examiner, subpoena the Fee Examiner as a witness, or commence an action against the Fee Examiner in connection with its duties and powers hereunder except in this Court, and with the prior approval of this Court (or, with respect to discovery, the Fee Examiner's consent), which retains exclusive jurisdiction therefor.
- 22. Any and all claims or causes of action not instituted against the Fee Examiner prior to the thirtieth (30th) calendar day after entry of an order determining the last Final Fee Application in these Chapter 11 Cases shall be forever barred and discharged, and all persons and entities shall be forever enjoined from prosecuting such claims in any manner thereafter.
- 23. The Debtors and the Fee Examiner are authorized and empowered to take any and all actions necessary to implement and effectuate the terms of this Order.
- 24. Notwithstanding any applicability of Bankruptcy Rules 6004(h), 7062 or 9014, the terms and conditions of this Order shall be immediately effective and enforceable upon its entry.

25. This Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation and/or enforcement of this Order. Notwithstanding any provisions of this Order to the contrary, this Court shall retain the ultimate authority to determine whether fees and expenses requested are necessary and reasonable under section 330 of the Bankruptcy Code.

EXHIBIT 1

Declaration

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

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Chapter 11

FRANCHISE GROUP, INC., et al., 1

Case No. 24-12480 (JTD)

Debtors.

(Jointly Administered)

DECLARATION OF W. JOSEPH DRYER IN SUPPORT OF ORDER APPOINTING DIRECT FEE REVIEW LLC AS FEE EXAMINER

I, W. Joseph Dryer, declare, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, under penalty of perjury that:

- 1. I am a member of Direct Fee Review LLC (the "<u>Firm</u>"), which maintains offices at 24A Trolley Square #1225, Wilmington, Delaware 19806.
- 2. I submit this declaration (this "<u>Declaration</u>") to establish that both the Firm and I are a "disinterested person" as that term is defined in section 101(14) of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101–1532 (the "Bankruptcy Code") in connection with the Firm's

The Debtors in these Chapter 11 Cases, along with the last four digits of their U.S. federal tax identification numbers, to the extent applicable, are Franchise Group, Inc. (1876), Freedom VCM Holdings, LLC (1225), Freedom VCM Interco Holdings, Inc. (2436), Freedom Receivables II, LLC (4066), Freedom VCM Receivables, Inc. (0028), Freedom VCM Interco, Inc. (3661), Freedom VCM, Inc. (3091), Franchise Group New Holdco, LLC (0444), American Freight FFO, LLC (5743), Franchise Group Acquisition TM, LLC (3068), Franchise Group Intermediate Holdco, LLC (1587), Franchise Group Intermediate L, LLC (9486), Franchise Group Newco Intermediate AF, LLC (8288), American Freight Group, LLC (2066), American Freight Holdings, LLC (8271), American Freight, LLC (5940), American Freight Management Company, LLC (1215), Franchise Group Intermediate S, LLC (5408), Franchise Group Newco S, LLC (1814), American Freight Franchising, LLC (1353), Home & Appliance Outlet, LLC (n/a), American Freight Outlet Stores, LLC (9573), American Freight Franchisor, LLC (2123), Franchise Group Intermediate B, LLC (7836), Buddy's Newco, LLC (5404), Buddy's Franchising and Licensing LLC (9968), Franchise Group Intermediate V, LLC (5958), Franchise Group Newco V, LLC (9746), Franchise Group Intermediate BHF, LLC (8260), Franchise Group Newco BHF, LLC (4123), Valor Acquisition, LLC (3490), Vitamin Shoppe Industries LLC (3785), Vitamin Shoppe Global, LLC (1168), Vitamin Shoppe Mariner, LLC (6298), Vitamin Shoppe Procurement Services, LLC (8021), Vitamin Shoppe Franchising, LLC (8271), Vitamin Shoppe Florida, LLC (6590), Betancourt Sports Nutrition, LLC (0470), Franchise Group Intermediate PSP, LLC (5965), Franchise Group Newco PSP, LLC (2323), PSP Midco, LLC (6507), Pet Supplies "Plus", LLC (5852), PSP Group, LLC (5944), PSP Service Newco, LLC (6414), WNW Franchising, LLC (9398), WNW Stores, LLC (n/a), PSP Stores, LLC (9049), PSP Franchising, LLC (4978), PSP Subco, LLC (6489), PSP Distribution, LLC (5242), Franchise Group Intermediate SL, LLC (2695), Franchise Group Newco SL, LLC (7697), and Educate, Inc. (5722). The Debtors' headquarters is located at 109 Innovation Court, Suite J, Delaware, Ohio 43015.

appointment as the independent Fee Examiner in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases of Franchise Group, Inc. and its affiliated debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors").

- 3. Except as otherwise indicated, I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein.
- 4. With respect to my and the Firm's "disinterestedness" under section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code, I provide the following information:
 - a. Neither the Firm nor I is, or has been, during the pendency of the chapter 11 cases, a creditor, equity security holder or insider of any of the Debtors.
 - b. Neither any professional at the Firm nor I is, or has been, a director, officer or employee of any of the Debtors.
 - c. Neither the Firm nor I have any interest materially adverse to the interests of these bankruptcy estates or any class of creditors or equity security holders by reason of any direct or indirect relationship to, connection with or interest in any of the Debtors, or for any other reason.
 - d. Neither any professional at the Firm nor I is a relative of any Bankruptcy Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, the United States Trustee for Region 3 or any person employed by the Office of the United States Trustee (Region 3) (the "<u>U.S. Trustee</u>").
 - e. Neither the Firm nor I represent or has represented in the past any of the Debtors or any of their affiliates.
- 5. To the best of my knowledge after reasonable inquiry, neither I nor the Firm has any connection to the Debtors, their creditors, any other potential party in interest set forth on the list provided by the Debtors included as <u>Exhibit A</u> hereto, their respective attorneys and/or accountants, or any person employed by the U.S. Trustee except that as a fee examiner in unrelated chapter 11 cases, the Firm and I have previously audited fee applications of firms listed in <u>Exhibit B</u> hereto. The Firm and I also maintain, or have in the past maintained, incidental consumer accounts with JPMorgan Chase.

- 6. I do not believe that auditing fee applications of professionals retained in these chapter 11 cases or any of the other disclosed connections with potential parties in interest in matters unrelated to the Debtors' chapter 11 cases presents any conflict of interest.
- 7. The Firm's current customary hourly rate, subject to change from time to time, is \$300 per hour, plus reimbursement of expenses. In the normal course of business, the Firm revises its regular hourly rates on January 1st of each year and requests that, effective January 1st of each year, the aforementioned rate be revised to the regular hourly rate which will be in effect at that time; *provided*, *however*, the Firm will provide at least ten (10) days advance notice of the revised regular hourly rate to counsel to the Debtors, the U.S. Trustee, and proposed counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors.
- 8. No agreement or understanding exists between the Firm or any partner, auditor or other member thereof as to compensation in connection with these chapter 11 cases.
- 9. As required by section 504 of the Bankruptcy Code, neither the Firm nor I have any agreement with any entity to share with such entity any compensation received by the Firm.
- 10. The Firm and its partners, auditors and members may have in the past been retained as fee examiner and may in the future be retained as fee examiner by entities that are or may become claimants of the Debtors in matters totally unrelated to the matters with respect to which the Firm is to be engaged in the Debtors' chapter 11 cases.
- 11. Neither I, the Firm, nor any partner, auditor or member thereof, insofar as I have been able to ascertain, holds or represents any interest adverse to the Debtors, or their estates in the matters upon which the Firm is to be engaged.
- 12. In the event that additional facts bearing on the matters described herein are discovered, I will supplement the information contained in this Declaration.

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I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief after reasonable inquiry, the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: January 15, 2025

Wilmington, Delaware

/s/ W. Joseph Dryer W. Joseph Dryer

EXHIBIT A

Parties in Interest List

Debtor Entities & Related Subsidiaries

American Freight FFO, LLC

American Freight Franchising, LLC

American Freight Franchisor, LLC

American Freight Group, LLC

American Freight Holdings, LLC

American Freight Management Company,

LLC

American Freight Outlet Stores, LLC

American Freight, LLC

B. Riley Receivables II, LLC

Betancourt Sports Nutrition, LLC

Buddy's Franchising and Licensing LLC

Buddy's New Co, LLC

Educate, Inc.

Franchise Group Acquisition TM, LLC

Franchise Group Intermediate AF, LLC

Franchise Group Intermediate B, LLC

Franchise Group Intermediate BHF LLC

Franchise Group Intermediate Holdco, LLC

Franchise Group Intermediate L, LLC

Franchise Group Intermediate PSP, LLC

Franchise Group Intermediate S, LLC

Franchise Group Intermediate SL, LLC

Franchise Group Intermediate V, LLC

Franchise Group New Holdco, LLC

Franchise Group Newco BHF, LLC

Franchise Group Newco PSP, LLC

Franchise Group Newco S, LLC

Franchise Group Newco SL, LLC

Franchise Group Newco V, LLC

Franchise Group, Inc.

Freedom VCM Holdings, LLC

Freedom VCM Interco Holdings, Inc.

Freedom VCM Interco, Inc.

Freedom VCM Receivables, Inc.

Freedom VCM, Inc.

Home & Appliance Outlet LLC

Pet Supplies "Plus", LLC

PSP Distribution, LLC

PSP Franchising, LLC

PSP Group, LLC

PSP Midco, LLC

PSP Service Newco, LLC

PSP Stores, LLC (Ohio)

PSP Subco, LLC

Valor Acquisition, LLC

Vitamin Shoppe Florida, LLC

Vitamin Shoppe Franchising, LLC

Vitamin Shoppe Global, LLC

Vitamin Shoppe Industries LLC

Vitamin Shoppe Mariner, LLC

Vitamin Shoppe Procurement Services, LLC

W.S. Badcock Corporation

WNW Franchising, LLC

WNW Stores, LLC

5% or Greater Equity Holders

B. Riley Private Shares 2023-2 QP, LLC

B. Riley Securities, Inc.

BRF Investments, LLC

Brian Kahn and Lauren Kahn Joint Tenants

by Entirety

Vintage Opportunity Partners, L.P.

Directors and Officers

Aaron Granger

Alissa Ahlman

Andrew Kaminsky

Andrew Laudato

Andrew M. Laurence

Anthony Block-Belmonte

Brian Hoke

Bryant R. Riley

Chris Meyer

Christopher Rowland

Daniel McNamara

Eric Seeton

Jacob Jones

Jeff Van Orden

Jeffrey Seghi

Jemma Lawrance

John Hartmann

Kenneth Miles Tedder

Lee Wright

Michael Bennett

Mike Gray

Muriel Gonzalez

Neal Panza

Norman McLeod

Peter Corsa

Philip Etter

Teresa Orth

Tiffany McMillan-McWaters

Todd Arden Todd Evans

Administrative and Collateral Agents

Alter Domus (US) LLC JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

Significant Suppliers and Vendors

A Team Sales LLC

Affordable Furniture Mfg Inc

Alani Nutrition

American Agco (ADMC) Animal Supply Co Lone Star Animal Supply Co Wholesome Ashley Furniture Industries Inc

Brodnax Printing Company I, LLC dba

Brodnax 21c Printers

California Pet Partners LLC

Capstone Nutrition

CRAMCO

Crown Mark Imports Inc

DAS LABS LLC

Elytus Ltd

Enterprise FM Trust

Flexport

Florida State Games Inc.

Garden of Life Generis Tek Inc Ghost, LLC. Gorilla Mind KFM247 LTD Kith Furniture

Korber Supply Chain US, Inc.

Lumisource, LLC

Marcone Appliance Parts Company

Mars Petcare Media Works, Ltd. Merrick Pet Foods Inc Meta Platforms, Inc.

MMXXI Investments LLC

Nutrivo, LLC

ODP Business Solutions, LLC (Office

Depot)

One Stop Facilities Maintenance Corp

Optimum Nutrition

Origin

Peak Living

Phillips Lansing Facility

Planitretail LLC

Prime Hydration LLC

Pro-Form Laboratories

Quest Nutrition, LLC

Raw Sport Supplement Company

REDCON 1

Royal Canin

Ryse Up Sports Nutrition LLC

Seaboard International Forest Products LLC

Sealy Mattress Company

Seminole Furniture

Steve Silver Company

Uber Freight US LLC

Velosio LLC

Vitality Works, Inc.

WEX Bank

Top Unsecured Creditors (as of 10.10.24)

Albany Industries Inc

Alphia Inc

Aquatic & Reptile - Central Garden & Pet

Arizona Nutritional Supplement

Assurant Inc.

Champion Petfoods USA

Climatic Home Products

Coyote Logistics

Delta Furniture

Earth Animal Ventures

Ehplabs LLC

Elanco US Inc

Elements International Group LLC

EMA Electrolux/Frigidaire Force Factor Brands LLC

GE Appliances

GE General Electric-Haier US Appliance

Google

Hartz Mountain - VMX Hill's Pet Nutrition

Kong Company

Living Style (Singapore) Pte. Limited

Lowes Companies Inc

M I Industries Inc

Madix Inc

Midwestern Pet Foods

Muebles Briss S.A. De C.V.(Marby)

Natural Balance Pet Foods Inc Nestle Purina Petcare Company

Open Farm Inc Order Groove Inc O'Rourke Bros., Inc. O'Rourke Sales Company

Peak Living, Inc.

Phillips Feed and Pet Supply Premier Nutrition Company, LLC

Radio Systems Corporation

Sealy Mattress Manufacturing Company

Simmons Pet Food Inc Solstice Sleep Company Spectrum Brands Pet LLC Standard Furniture MFG Co Inc

Stella and Chewys LLC Surest/UnitedHealthcare Inc.

Titanic Furniture

Transform Holdco LLC (3PL)

UPS (Ocean Freight) Vitamin Well USA LLC

Wellness Pet LLC

Weruva International Inc

Whirlpool

Zinatex Imports, Inc

Landlords & Lessors

103rd Street 6024, LLC 1210 Morena West LLC

1230 Zion, LLC 1700 Eubank, LLC

1997 GRP Limited Partnership 2151 Highland Partners, LLC 2885 Gender Road, LLC

30X30 34th Street Lubbock Partners, LLC

3200 Hwy 13, LLC

4100 Tomlynn Street-Rebkee, LLC and Tomlynn Street-Fountainhead, LLC

4116 OBT Investments, LLC

425 Broadway RE Holdings LLC & 431

Broadway RE Holdings LLC

4801 Washtenaw LLC

5737-5848 North Elizabeth Street Holdings,

LLC

6001 Powerline, LLC

65 Holmes Investment Partners LLC

6588 LLC

7000 S May Ave, LLC 801 South Ft. Hood, LLC

900-71, LLC

A. Roland Kimbrell Trust

Acorn Ridge Properties LLC, JDM Capital,

LLC, MO Partners LLC, Confluence

Investment LLC

Afreight Holdings, LLC

AJDC 2, LLC

Albany Plaza Shopping Center LLC

Alisan LLC and Roseff LLC

All American Association, LLC and Yvonne

Keff

Allentex, LP

Amerco Real Estate Company

AMG Properties Inc. Amplify Credit Union Anderson Plaza, LLC

Arch Village Management Realty LLC

Ares Holdings, L.L.C. Arizona Mills Mall, LLC

AR-Park Shopping Center, LLC and JSP-

Park Shopping Center, LLC Atlanta Industrial TT, LLC

B.J. McCord d/b/a McCord Business Center

B33 Broadview Village LLC

Baldwin Gardens, Inc.

Bane Holdings of Tallahassee, LLC

Banner Partners, LLC Bardstown S.C., LLC BC Airport, LLC Bell-51st, LLC Belt 98, Inc.

Berryessa Plaza LLC

BG Plaza, LLC

Boatlanding Development Co., Inc.

Bostick Development, L.C. BRC Hendersonville, LLC

BRE Mariner Venice Shopping Center LLC BRE Retail NP Festival Centre Owner LLC

Brierwood Village LLC

Brighton Landmark, LLC Brixmor Holdings 8 SPE, LLC

Brixmor SPE 5 LLC Brixton Rogue, LLC

Brookhill V Acquisition, LLC

Brooksville Commercial Properties, LLC

and Oak Tree Lane, LLC Brown Deer Mall, LLC Bruce Howe Trust

BSW/DMW Properties LLC Cafaro Leasing Company, LTD.

Candler RD Plaza GA LLC Cedar Golden Triangle, LLC

Centerpoint 550, LLC Centerview Plaza, LLC

Central Mall Port Arthur Realty Holding,

LLC

Certified Capital, LP, Horowitz Holdings, LLC, Asset Acquisitions, LLC, and 3610

Partners, GP

CETA Group Limited Partnership

Chapel Hills Realty LLC, Chapel Hills CH

LLC, and Chapel Hills Nassim LLC Charleigh Davis and TCCB Properties

Chicago Title & Trust Company, As Trustee

Under Trust Agreement Dated 10/10/1984

and Known as Trust No. 1086065 Chillicothe Shopping Center, LP Chris McCarty Company, LLC Cielo Paso Las Tiendas, L.P. Circle City Property Group Inc.

Citimark Charleston, LLC

CJM Limited Liability Limited Partnership

Clear Creek Brothers - CV, LLC

Clear Lake Center, L.P. Clendenin Partners CLPF-Essex Green, LLC

Cobblestone Square Company, Ltd. ColFin 2015-2 Industrial Owner, LLC

Colony Mills Enterprises, LLC

Combined Properties Limited Partnership Commercial Properties Associates, LLP Concord Retail Investment Group, LLC

Core MR Westview, LLC Costco-Innovel Owner LLC Costco-Innovel Properties LLC Creekstone/Juban I, LLC Crossing Point LLC

Crossroads Centre II, LLC Crossroads Plaza, LLC

Crossroads Sunset Holdings, LLC Cuyahoga Investments, LLC

CWP/Arlington LLC D3 New Albany, LLC

Daniel G. Kamin Wadsworth Enterprises

Daniel P. Hagaman

Danville Riverside Partners, LLC

Daytona Commons, LLC DCT Presidents Drive LLC DDR Carolina Pavilion LP

Dennis R. Phillips Revocable Trust

Derby Improvements, LLC

DES 2015, LLC and CJCM, LLC-Series

CV505

Dixie Manor, LLC

Donna M. Rainwater & Larry J. Rainwater Donna Rainwater Reece, Larry J. Rainwater, R. Bryan Whitmire and Karla J. Whitmire Douglas C. Foyt and Trailers for Sale or Rent, Inc.

Dyn Sycamore Investments, L.L.C.

E & L Investments LLC E.W. Thompson, Inc. Eagle Water, LLC

Eagle-North Hills Shopping Centre LP Eastlake Edison LLC and Eastlake Milford

LLC

Economy Square, Inc.

Ellis Chai LLC

Esue LLC

Ethan Conrad Properties, Inc. Excel Realty Partners, L.P.

Exchange Right Value-Add Portfolio 2

Master Lessee, LLC

F.M.K., LLC

Fairview Heights Realty, LLC and Fairview

Nassim LLC

Fall River Shopping Center North, LLC

Faye Gross

Fiddler's Run, LLC Fivel Family, LLC

Fox Jr. Development Inc.

Franklin Mills Associates Limited

Partnership

Franklin Towne Plaza LLC Frayer Enterprises, LLC

Fredric Singer

Front Street Kansas City, LLC FSC West Covina, LLC FSH Galleria Plaza, LLC G&I X Industrial IN LLC Gamble Brothers, LLC

Gary Mehan, DBA G.M. Properties Gateway Retail Partner III, LLC

Gateway South, LLC #1

GBUZZ, LLC GCP Boom, LLC Giuffre IV, LLC

GKI Industrial Dallas, LLC Glendale Galleria Center, LLC GLL BVK Properties, L.P.

Gosula Holdings Ltd.

Gravois Bluffs East 8-A, LLC Greater Orlando Aviation Authority

Greenfield Plaza LLC

Greenlight Development, LLC

GRH Goodyear LLC, Gaston Holdings LLC, and MRH Venture Capital LLC

Gridley Square Property, LLC

GS Centennial LLC Gulson Retail LLC Halltown Farms, LLC

Hankins Real Estate Partnership

Hart & Hart Corp. Henry Fine Trust

Hidden Hill Road Associates, LLC

High Cotton Palisades, LLC, High Cotton Shoals, LLC and Pharo Palisades I, LLC

Himaloy Taylor LLC

HM Peachtree Corners I LLC Hogan Holdings 56, LLC

HV Center LLC, HV Center TIC 1 LLC,

and HV Center TIC 2 LLC IH 35 Loop 340 Investors, LTD.

IH-10 Hayden, Ltd. Indian Trail Square, LLC

Inland Commercial Real Estate Services

LLC

Innovation Realty IN, LLC

Integra CRE, LLC

IRC Park Center Plaza, L.L.C.

Ireland Corner, LLC

Isador Schreiber & Associates, LLC J & F Gainesville Properties, LLC J&L Development Company, LLC

Jackson Street Group, LLC

Jeffnan U.S.A. Inc.
JHG Properties, LLC
JMK5 Winchester, LLC
JMW Hebron, LLC

Joe Amato East End Centre, LP JRF Texas Properties, LLC JSM Land Group, LLC

Kelley Commercial Realty, LLC and

Stephanie D. Kelley

Keyser Oak Investors, LLC

KGI Military LLC Kin Properties Inc.

Kings Mountain Investments

Kingsport Green AC Managing Company,

LLC

Kinsman Investors Kitty Wells, Inc. KMD, LLC

KRG Houston Royal Oaks Village II, LLC

KRG Plaza Green, LLC

L.W. Miller Holding Company

Laurie Industries, Inc., Kinpark Associates

and Fundamentals Company

Lawrence F. Kolb & Catherine M. Kolb, Trustees of The Lawrence F. Kolb and Catherine M. Kolb JLRT U/A/D April 12, 2018 and 2233 & 2235 MO Blvd, LLC

LBD Properties, LLC

LCRF, LLC

LDC Silvertree, LLC Leland J3, LLC

Leveraged Holdings, L.L.C. Lexington 2770, LLC

Lichtefeld Development Trust Lidl US Operations, LLC

Lincoln Associates

LIT-ENVP Limited Partnership

LoLo Enterprises, LLC

Lovell 2.5, LLC

LU Candlers Station Holdings, LLC

Lynch Butler M3 Ventures, LLC Macon Center, LLC

Malco T.I.C.

Mall at Potomac Mills, LLC Marathon Management, LLC

Marc NaperW LLC and NaperW, LLC

MarketFair North, LLC

McRae Mortgage & Investments, LLC

Meditrina Properties, LLC

Melvin C. McClung, Trustee of the Tommie

Louise McClung Family Trust

Menard, Inc.
Merchant 33 LLC

Merchant's Investors, LLC

Meredith, Inc.

Midwest Commercial Funding, LLC Missouri Boulevard Investment Company,

LLC

Mobile Highway 4500, LLC Mojack Holdings, LLC

Mongia Capital Michigan, LLC

Moon Village, LLC Morningside Plaza, L.P.

MR Stealth LLC

Muenchens Unlimited, LLC NDF III MJ Crossing, LLC New Bern Development LLC New Plaza Management, LLC Newport Crossing Investors, LLC

Niagara Falls 778, LLC

North County Columbia Realty, LLC Northern McFadden Limited Partnership

Northside Village Conyers, LLC Northtowne Center Investors, LLC

Oak Forest Group, LTD Okee Realty Associates, LLC

Old Orchard, LLC One Home Realty, Inc. One Land Company, LLC One Oak Investments, LLC

Osborne Properties Limited Partnership

Oxford Street Huntsville P & S Axelrod, L.L.C.

P&H Investments, LLC Pacifica Muskegon, LLC Parker-Anderson, LLC Parkway Mall, LLC

PCRIF Spring Park Holdings, LLC

Pensacola Corners LLC

PFIILP - Parr Boulevard, LLC

Pilchers Summit Limited Partnership

Pinellas Park Square, LLC Piqua Investment Partners, LLC PK II El Camino North L.P.

Plaza North Shopping Center, LLC

Polk County Partners, LLC

Port St. Lucie Plaza I, II, III, LLC

Prattville Partners, Limited Partnership Prologis Targeted U.S. Logistics Fund, L.P.

Pullman Square Associates Rainbow Investment Co. Randall M. Schulz

Ravi Randal Investment Group, LLC

RE Pecan, LLC

Realty Income Corporation

Regions Bank as Trustee of the Thomas H.

Willings Jr. Family Trust Repwest Insurance Company

Richard Briggs and John Nathan Briggs, as

Trustees of the Stephanie R. Briggs

Irrevocable Trust dated October 15, 2009; and Stephanie R. Briggs and John Nathan Briggs, as Trustees of the Richard M. Briggs Irrevocable Trust dated October 15, 2009

Ridgewater Commerce LLC Rini Realty Company River Oaks Properties, Ltd. Riverdale Center North, LLC Riverplace Shopping Center, LLC Rock N Roll Development, LLC

Rockhill Center, LLC Rodi Road 501, LLC

Rogers Commercial Properties, LLC

Rose & Rose, LLC

RPI Ridgmar Town Square, Ltd.

RRG LLC

Sabatine BK Development, LLC Saia Family Limited Partnership

Sarabara Corp.

Sav 15000 Abercorn, LLC

Sears Authorized Hometown Stores, LLC

SEK 7753, LLC

Shrewsbury Village Limited Partnership

Sissel Juliano

SJN Realty Holdings, LLC

Slidell Athletic Club Property, L.L.C.

Somera Road - Athens Georgia II, LLC

South Tulsa Storage, LLC

Southern Hills Center, Ltd.

Southgate Properties, LLC

Southtown Plaza Realty LLC and

Southtown Nassim LLC

Southview Dothan Investors, LLC

Space For Lease of Tennessee

State Road 4201, LLC

Stature High Ridge, LLC

Sterling Equities II, LLC

Stewart & Hamilton Properties, LLC

Stone Mountain Square Shopping

Center, LLC

SVR Investments, LLC

SW 17th Street 1010, LLC

Sylvan Park Apartments, LLC

T.B.R. Property Group, LLC

T18 Investments, LLC

Tanglewood Venture, LLC

TB Garrett Creek, LLC

TBF Group Battle Creek, LLC

TCP Enterprise Parkway, LLC

Tejas Center, LTD.

Tenalok, LLC

Texas Main Street, LLC

The Collins Investment Trust

TKC CCXXXIX, LLC

TKG Colerain Towne Center, LLC

TKG Cranston Development, L.L.C.

TKG Fairhaven Commons, LLC

TLP 4782 Muhlhauser LLC

Tops Holding, LLC

Town Real Estate Enterprises, LLC

Tucson Speedway Square, LLC

Tumon Bay Resort & Spa, LLC

Turfway Baceline, LLC

Two by Two Properties, LLC

Tycer Heirs Separate Property, LLC

University Realty Associates, LLC

US Investments

Victory River Square, LLC

Vishal Kalmia Plaza, LLC

W.H. Warehouse, L.L.C.

Wal-Austin, LLC

Warner Robins Perlmix, LLC

Watson Village Retail, LLC

Waverly Plaza Shopping Center, Inc.

West County Investors, LLC

Weston SCIP 2 LLC

Westphal Leasing, LLC

Westside Village Shopping Center of Rome,

Inc.

WFD Investments, L.L.C.

White Lane, LLC

Whitehall Crossing D, LLC

William Shane Courtney

Woodcrest Akers, LLC

Woodforest Mini-City Partners, LP and

JLCM Partners, LP, TIC

Wylds 1708, LLC

YEK #9, LLC

York Realty Investment, LLC

Significant Counterparties to Material

Agreements

Capturis

Engie Resources LLC

Significant Litigation Matters

Charles Knight

Health Advocate

Gale et al [Class Action]

Joseph F Gazzo III

Matthew Giffuni

Quadre Investment Advisors LLC

Buddy's Mac Holdings, LLC

Professionals

AlixPartners LLP

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP

Deloitte & Touche LLP

Ducera Partners LLC

Ernst & Young

Evercore LP

Foley & Lardner LLP

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP

Gordon Brothers Asset Advisors, LLC

Grant Thornton LLP

Guggenheim Securities, LLC

Hilco Merchant Resources, LLC

Hilco Real Estate, LLC

Holland & Knight, LLP

Kroll Restructuring Administration LLC

Landis Rath & Cobb LLP

Latham & Watkins LLP

Lazard Group LLC

M3 Advisory Partners, LP

Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell LLP

Paul Hastings LLP

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Whaton & Garrison

LLP

Petrillo Klein & Boxer LLP

Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP

Ryan, LLC

Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP

Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP

White & Case LLP

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP

Other Parties

BCDC Portfolio Owners LLC

BCHQ Owner LLC

National Retail Properties, LP

DE - Judges

Chan, Ashely M.

Dorsey, John T.

Goldblatt, Craig T.

Horan, Thomas M.

Owens, Karen B.

Shannon, Brendan L.

Silverstein, Laurie Selber

Stickles, J. Kate

Walrath, Mary F.

DE – Office of the United States Trustee

Andrew R. Vara

Benjamin Hackman

Christine Green

Diane Giordano

Dion Wynn

Edith A. Serrano

Elizabeth Thomas

Fang Bu

Hannah M. McCollum

Holly Dice

James R. O'Malley

Jane Leamy

Jonathan Lipshie

Jonathan Nyaku

Joseph Cudia

Joseph McMahon

Lauren Attix

Linda Casey

Linda Richenderfer

Malcolm M. Bates

Michael Girello

Nyanquoi Jones

Richard Schepacarter

Rosa Sierra-Fox

Shakima L. Dortch

Timothy J. Fox, Jr.

EXHIBIT B

Direct Fee Review LLC

Direct Fee Review LLC has reviewed or is currently reviewing fee applications submitted by the professional firms and in the matters listed below, which are wholly unrelated to the Debtors' chapter 11 cases:

Cases

AbitibiBowater, Inc.
Adoc Holdings, Inc.
AES Eastern Energy LP
Allied Systems, Inc.
Bolta US LTD

Borden Dairy Company

Building Materials Holding Corp Capmark Financial Group Inc.

CCS Medical, Inc.

Chicago Newspaper Liquidation Corp.

Colt Holding Company LLC

DGI Resolution Inc.
Direct Buy Holdings Inc.
First Energy Solutions Corp.

Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market Inc.

Furniture Brands International, Inc.

GNC Holdings Inc.

Hospital Acquisition LLC

LBI Media

Lucky Brand Dungarees, LLC

Maxus Energy Corp.

Mallinckrodt PLC Mission Coal

Molycorp, Inc.
OTC Holding Corp.

Raser Technologies, Inc.

RathGibson, Inc.

Remington Outdoor Company, Inc.

RMH Franchise Holdings, Inc.

RS Legacy Corp. School Specialty, Inc. SFX Entertainment, Inc. Southern Air Holdings, Inc. SP Newsprint Holdings LLC

Specialty Products Holding Corp. Takata Holdings

The Hertz Corp.
Vertis Holdings, Inc.
Walter Energy, Inc.
WP Steel Venture LLC

Zohar III Corp.

<u>Firms</u>

A&G Realty

Adams and Reese LLP

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Alix Partners, LLP

Alvarez & Marsal North America, LLC

Alvarez & Marsal Securities

Analysis Group, Inc.

Analysis Research and Planning Corp

AP Services LLC
Arent Fox LLP

Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP

Arthur Cox LLP

Ashby & Geddes PA

Assessment Technologies Ltd B. Riley Advisory Services

Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell &

Berkowitz

Ballard Spahr LLP Barclays Capital Inc

Barnes & Thornburg LLP

Bates White LLC

Bayard PA

BDO Consulting

BDO USA LLP

Beekman Advisors Inc.

Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff

LLP

Bennett Jones LLP

Berkeley Research Group LLC

Bifferato LLC

Black McCuskey Souers & Arbaugh, LPA

Blackstone Advisory Partners LP

Blank Rome LLP

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

Broadpoint Capital, Inc. Brouse McDowell LPA Brown Rudnick LLP Bryan Cave LLP

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC

Burr & Forman, LLP

Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP Caplin & Drysdale Chartered and Seitz

Van Ogtrop & Green PA
Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP
Calfee Halter & Griswold LLP
Carl Marks Advisory Group LLC
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

Charter Oak Financial Consultants LLC

Christian & Small LLP Chuo Sogo Law Office PC

Cole Schotz PC Colley LLP

Complete Discovery Source, Inc.

Conway MacKenzie, Inc.

Cooley LLP

Cousins Chipman & Brown LLP

Cornerstone Research Inc.
Covington & Burling LLP
Cross & Simon LLC
Cushman & Wakefield Inc.

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP

Dechert LLP

Deloitte & Touche LLP Deloitte Consulting LLP

Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP

Deloitte LLP FAS
Deloitte Tax LLP

Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP

DLA Piper

Donlin & Recano & Company, Inc. Donnelly Penman & Partners Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP

Ducera Partners, LLC

Duff & Phelps

Dundon Advisors LLC Edmond R. Denaberg

Emerald Capital Advisors Corp.
Epiq Corporate Restructuring LLC

Ernst & Young LLP Evercore Group

Evert Weathersby Houff

Executive Sounding Board Associates

Foley & Lardner LLP

Forman Perry Watkins Krutz & Tardy

LLP

Fox Rothschild LLP Frankel Wyron LLP Freed Maxick CPAs PC FTI Consulting Inc

Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Gilbert LLP

Gnarus Advisors LLC Godfrey & Kahn SC Goldman Sachs & Co LLC Gordon Brothers Group LLC

Grant Thornton LLP Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Growling Lafleur Henderson LLP Guggenheim Securities LLC

Hahn & Hessen LLP

Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP

Hilco Real Estate, Hogan Lovells US LLP Holland & Knight LLP

Houlihan Lokey

Houlihan Lokey Capital Inc Hunton & Williams LLP Huron Consulting LLC ICF Resources, LLC Jefferies & Co, Inc. Jefferson & Company Inc. Jefferson Wells Inc. Inc. Jenner & Block LLP Johnson Associates Inc

Jones Day

Jones Lang Lasalle Brokerage Inc

JR Myriad LLC

Kasowitz Benson Torres & Friedman LLP

Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

Kaye Scholer LLP Keightly & Ashner LLP Kelly Drye & Warren LLP

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP

Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Klehr Harrison Harvey Branzburg LLP

KPMG Canada KPMG LLP

Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP Kurtzman Carson Consultants LLC

Latham & Watkins LLP Landis Rath & Cobb LLP

Lax O'Sullivan Lisus Gottlieb LLP

Lazard Freres & Co LLC Legal Analysis Systems Inc.

Locke Lord LLP Loughlin Meghji & Co Lowenstein Sandler LLP Loyens & Loeff NV Mackinac Partners LLC

Maples and Calder (Ireland) LLP

Maples Law Firm PC
Mason Hayes & Curan LLP
Maynard Cooper & Gale PC
McCarthy Tetrault LLP
McDonald Hopkins LLC
McKool Smith PC

MCKOOI SIIIIII PC

Mercer (Canada) Limited

Mesirow Financial Consulting LLC Meunier Carlin & Curfman LLC M-III Advisory Partners, LP

Milbank Tweed Hadley & McLoy LLP

Miller Buckfire & Co LLC

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Faris Glosky and

Popeo PC

Moelis & Company LLC

Montgomery McCracken Walker &

Rhoads LLP

Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP

Morris James LLP

Morris Nichols Arsht & Tunnell LLP

Morrison & Foerster LLP

MPA Inc

NERA Economic Consulting

Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart

PC

O'Melveny & Myers LLP Omni Management Group

Otterbourg Steindler Houston & Rosen

PC

Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP

Parella Weinberg Partners LP

Paul Hastings Janofsky & Walker LLP

Paul Hastings LLP

Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison

LLP

Pepper Hamilton LLP

Perella Weinberg Partners LP

Perkins Coie LLP

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLC

PJ Solomon Company

PJT Partners LP

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Canada

Prime Clerk LLC Protiviti Inc. Province Inc

Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP

Raymond James & Associates, Inc.

Reed Smith LLP

Retail Consulting Services, Inc. Richards Layton & Finger PA

Riveron Consulting Robert B MacLellan Robinson & Cole LLP

Roger Frankel Ropes & Gray LLP Rosen Harwood, PA Rosner Law Group LLP Rothschild Inc.
RSM US LLP
Rust Consulting
Sakura Kyodo
Saul Ewing LLP

Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP Seaport Group Securities LLC Seelig + Cussigh HCO LLC

Segal Company

Shearman & Sterling LLP

Sheppard Mullin

Seitz Van Ogtrop & Green PA

Sichenzi Ross Friedman Ference LLP

Sidley Austin LLP Sirote & Permutt, PC Sitrick and Company, Inc.

Spangenberg Shibley & Liber LLP Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP

Squire Patton Boggs (US Stevens & Lee PC

Stikeman Elliott LLP

Strook Strook & Lavan LLP Sullivan Hazeltine LLC Taylor English Duma LLP

The Boston Consulting Group, Inc.

Togut Segal & Segal

Tom Weiskotten and GR Robbins &

Associates, PA Torys LLP

Troutman Sanders LLP UBS Securities LLC

Van Benthem & Keulen NV Van Wobeser Y Sierra, SC

Venable LLP

Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP Weinsweig Advisors LLC

Whireford Taylor & Preston LLC

White & Case LLP

Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLC

Whittlesey & Hadley PC Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale & Dorr

LLP

William Fry

Witmer Karp Warner & Ryan LLP Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor LLP

Zolfo Cooper LLC

Zolfo Cooper Management LLC